THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) Government is considering various options regarding the future set up of Vayudoot. No final decision has yet been taken in the matter.

Changes in the Cockpit layout of A-320 Aircraft

1693. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) wsether the Airbus Industry has set up a team of specialists to study whether the cockpit layout of the A-320s needs to be changed;

(b) what are the recommendations of the Committee; and

(c) whether Government are contemplating changes in the A-320 aircrafts already operating in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Airbus Industries have indicated that they will undertake a study to review the design of Flight Control Unit. As and when the modification is finalised and approved, the same will be incorporated in the A-320 fleet of Indian Airlines.

Air India flight recalled after one Hour

1694. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2847 given in the Rajya Sabha on 17th March, 1992 and state:

(a) the extent of loss and dislocation of services caused by recalling of Air India flight one hour after it left Delhi airport on 3rd March, 1992; and

(b) whether any such incident took place on any of the airlines in India and abroad during the past two years, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The losses due to recall of Air India flight on 2-3-1992 after take off from Delhi airport amounted to approximately Rs. 15.90 lakhs. There was no dislocation of flight due to this incident.

(b) According to available information, two flights of Indian Airlines were recalled after take off during the last 2 years. Information on such incidents abroad are not available.

Cancellation of Flights by Air India

1695. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that hundreds of passengers travelling by Air India flights had been put to great inconvenience due to last minute cancellation of the flights for "commercial reasons";

(b) if so, what are these commercial reasons; and

(c) what is the number of times these flights were cancelled for such reasons during the last six months?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) Sometimes flights are combined due to poor loads at both ends. On such occasions, the passengers are transferred to the next available flight and all efforts are made to minimise inconvenience to the passengers.

Enquiry into the Purchase of A-320

1696. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had ordered an enquiry into the purchase of high technology A-320s in 1985;

(b) if so, what progress has been made into the investigations so far;

(c) whether the District Courts in America have been recording depositions of persons in connection will the A-320 purchases by India; and

(d) if so, whether the CBI has been associated with the investigations conducted by American Courts?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) C.B.I. had registered a case No. RC 2(A)/90-ACU(II) on 29th March, 1990. Most of investigations in India have been completed. Letters Rogatories have been despatched to USA, UK and France and these are in various stages of execution. The CBI have been closely monitoring the progress of investigation abroad.

Construction of Restaurant at Goa Airport

1697. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position of starting of a restaurant at Goa Airport;

(b) how many applications by way of tenders were received and what are the terms and conditions of N.A.A. to start this restaurant; and

(c) whether commissioning of this restaurant has been delayed as the same air-conditioned premises are being used by officials?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) The space carved out earlier, in the existing terminal building for a restraurant had to be diverted for office use because of operational requirements. No tender was invited for starting the restaurant. Improved restaurant facilities will be available after major modification of the existing terminal building and construction of a new terminal building is undertaken by the National Airports Authority.

Foreign Exchange Spent on Publicity of Visit India Year

1698. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what amount in foreign exchange has been spent by Government for overseas publicity during Visit India Year;

(b) whether this scheme was a success; and

(c) if so, whether they will extend this scheme to this calender year as the first Quarter of the visit India year was disturbed due to the Gulf crisis?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No separate allocation was made for overseas publicity for the Visit India Year. However, the annual budget for publicity and promotion overseas for 1991-92 was Rs. 28 crores and funds were spent out of this budget.

(b) Due to unforeseen circumstances and conditions prevalent, both domestic and international, the Visit India Year did not take off successfully.

(c) No, Sir.

Computerisation of Overseas Tourism Offices

1699. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether 18 overseas tourism offices are updating their information from time to time and whether these offices keep liaision with various State Governments;

(b) whether these offices are computerised so as to disseminate the latest information;

(c) if not, whether Government would consider their computerisation; and

(d) if so, by when?